

# The Brethren Evangelist,

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## THE YEAR 1895.

To all the readers of the EVANGELIST, we say, a good, happy and prosperous year.

The old year is gone. How quickly these years come and go.

Some one has said: "The year is a great wheel, and there is a band on that wheel that keeps it revolving, and as that wheel turns, it turns 365 smaller wheels, which are the days, and then each of these 365 wheels turns 24 smaller wheels, which are the hours, and these 24 smaller wheels turn 60 smaller, which are the minutes, and these 60 smaller wheels turn 60 more smaller wheels which are the seconds."

These wheels make their revolutions in rapid succession. As now we look back over the old year, have we realized all our expectations? Have we done all that we should or could have done? As we scan the record of the past year, does it give us joy or pain? Are there not slighted privileges, neglected opportunities and disappointed hopes? We know there are many. Oh, how many things there are which we might have done and yet left undone! Little acts of love,—why were they not done? Words of kindness—why were they not spoken?

But these things being so, what shall we do? Sit down, fret and worry over the past? Shall we do nothing now, because of the errors and mistakes of the past year? Surely not. We have started on another year of 365 days. What this year will bring forth, no one can tell. It matters not. Let the experience of 1894, be worth, at least something to us for the duties of 1895. The longer we have lived the wider should be our experience. New years bring with them new duties and new responsibilities. And as the years grow, the field of usefulness enlarges. We should be better qualified for life's duties now than we were last year this time; if not then we have lived in vain. Is the world any better because you have lived in it one more year? If not then

why should you have lived or why should you live another year? Let us all remember the parable of the barren fig tree. Will the Lord spare us during this year of grace? Why should he do so? Has he any special work for you? Have you found out what it is? Let us be up and doing. The night cometh wherein no man can work.

Shall we not try to do better, to be more useful, to love more and serve better, do more for the church, the Sunday-school, the young people's society—more for God and humanity. In this way only will the experience of the past be useful to us in the future. Let all our readers adopt the motto of the apostle Paul. "Forgetting the things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, let us press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Let us be ready for every duty, let us be kind and helpful, charitable in thought and word and deed, and when our earthly years close, be it sooner or later, we shall be ready for the brighter years of eternity, where we may enjoy peace and rest with the Father.

## TO OUR AGENTS.

We have mailed to you a complete outfit which will enable you to do successful work for the EVANGELIST. Go to work at once and secure for us a large subscription list. In most cases we have sent these outfits to our ministers requesting them to either act as agent or hand the circulars to some one who would take the work upon himself. This we did, because, only in a few cases, did we have a record as to who the agent was.

Our list of premiums should be a great inducement to subscribers and a great help to agents. They are quite liberal, and afford a splendid opportunity to those who wish to secure a good Bible at very low rates. We trust you will succeed in the work and send us large subscription lists.

## DON'T YOU LOVE HIM NOW.

The following incident is a remarkable illustration of what a little child can do in the way of leading others to Jesus. Should it not be an encouragement to all who labor for God, He blesses the humblest efforts for the accomplishment of great good.

One Sabbath evening a father called his children around him, and asked them what they had learned at the school that day. He was not a Christian man himself, but he had a pious wife, and the children always went regularly to the Sunday school.

In their own simple way the little ones began to tell what their teacher had been saying of the beautiful home in heaven that Jesus had left because of his love for sinners. Nellie, the youngest, had crept upon her father's knee, and, looking full in his face, she said, "Jesus must have loved us very much to do that; don't you love him for it, father?" Then they went on to describe the Saviour—how he was betrayed by Judas, and led before the high priest and Pilate; how the Jews called out, "Crucify him;" and how the wicked soldiers crowned him with thorns and mocked and scourged and buffeted him;" and again the little one looked up, and said, with tears in her eyes, "Don't you love him for that, father?" At last the children came to tell of the dreadful death of Jesus on the cross, and once more little Nellie looked up in her father's face and said the third time, "Now don't you love him, father?"

The father could not bear any more; he put his little girl down, and went away to hide his tears, for the words had gone home to his heart. Soon after he became a true Christian, and he said that little Nellie's questions had had more effect upon him than the most powerful preaching he had ever heard in his life.

## OUR FAULTS.

All of us have faults, and so have all our friends. Those faults need attention and they are pretty sure to get it; but the trouble is that the attention usually comes from the wrong direction. Our faults ought to have our attention. But we are more likely to think of our friend's faults which annoy us, than our faults which annoy our friend. In this way, the attention which the faults receive only makes matters worse. He is not helped by our giving prominence to his faults, nor are we helped by his giving prominence to ours. If each of us would attend to our own faults, both of us would be the gainers.—*Sel.*

It is almost impossible to fully estimate the good that will be done when the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ once gets hold of a man's heart. Had not the "indwelling Word" set Saul's soul on fire he would never have become the remarkable man that he was. Such wonderful mind, powerful will, resistless energy; such massive, rugged, profound and invincible argument—all developed by active work and determined opposition in the field to which God had called him! The golden opportunity was at hand, and there was needed the man to seize it, and carry it on to success—nobly was it done.—*Sel.*